

Tasword Conversion

Tasword to Pixel Print Conversion Utility
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This utility program has one purpose, to convert a TASWORD (Word Processor) file to the Pixel Print Desktop Publisher file. This gives the user the choice of creating a text file while in the Desktop Publisher program, or by using the TASWORD word processor program! The advantage of using the word processor for lengthy documents should be obvious since it is designed specifically for this single task!

Making a BACK-UP COPY: To make your own PERSONAL back-up copy, break the program at the first prompt (to LOAD a FONT) by pressing CAP SHIFT + BREAK. SAVE with RUN 9999 (ENTER).

TASWORD: Create your text file with the TASWORD word processor.
NOTE: (1) - use your TASWORD program to create any length text file up to (and including) 94 lines long! Pixel Print can only handle 94 lines (rows) on a page. So, do not save more than 94 lines for conversion at any time! (2) - create your file by setting the left and right margins so as to create 2 newsletter type columns, each 32 characters wide. First set the right hand margin at column 33 and type, filling in the left half of the page. Then clear the right margin and set the left margin at column 32 to create the right hand column. The conversion program will take this text file and create 2 Pixel Print Desktop Publisher files using columns 1 to 32 and 33 to 64.

LOAD ICONS: Yes... this utility will allow you to insert ICONS into your TASWORD file! ICON positions in the TASWORD file are specified by printing a graphics character (graphic CAP SHIFT + 8) in with the text! Each ICON (picture) is equal to 4 characters wide and 7 standard rows high. Anything printed in this area will be covered by the ICON. The graphic symbol marks the upper-left corner of this ICON. Use the ICON PACKAGE librarian to browse your ICONS, select the ones you want and have them SAVED to tape in the ICON format (not SCREEN\$) prior to running the conversion program. When you RUN the conversion program, as each graphics symbol is encountered (reading character by character, left to right and top to bottom), you will be prompted to LOAD an ICON. When the last ICON is loaded, you will SAVE the converted column to tape. The left-hand column is processed first, then the right hand column.

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Line Spacing: When you run the TASWORD conversion program to recreate your TASWORD text file in the Pixel Print format, you can specify the line spacing (in pixels) that will be used. The TS 2068 character set is 7 pixels high and has 1 blank pixel added to provide line spacing. Some of the New Fonts (from the Font Packages) use a full 8 pixels to define the letters/numbers. In this case printing one of these characters above another tends to run the two together. So, select a larger line spacing (like 9 or 10) to spread the characters out and provide better clarity. Note however, the bigger the line spacing, the fewer lines of text that can be printed on a page. When you are prompted to select the desired line spacing (8 to 16 is available) you are told the maximum number of TASWORD lines that can be converted to a Pixel Print column: height of 8 pixels has 94 lines, 9 pixels has 83 lines, 10 pixels has 75 lines, 11 pixels has 68 lines, 12 pixels has 62 lines, 13 pixels has 57 lines, 14 pixels has 53 lines, 15 pixels has 50 lines, and 16 pixels has 47 lines. Select the line spacing that best suits the font you are using and the length of TASWORD file you are converting.

PRINT COLUMN: After SAVEing the column to tape, you will be asked if you want to PRINT the Pixel Print column (including ICONS) as you will see it in the Pixel Print column. NOTE: this program only works with the TS 2040 type thermal printers!

FONTs: Before each column is processed, you are asked if you want to LOAD a new FONT. If you do, you can LOAD one of the FONTs from the FONT PACKAGE, if not... the standard TS 2068 font is used. This font (the TS 2068 standard or one you LOAD in) is maintained until a new font is loaded in.

When you have completed both the left and right columns, the program asks you if you want to convert another TASWORD file. If YES, then repeat the process until you are done. When completed, you will have TASWORD files merged with pictures, ready to be printed with the DESKTOP PUBLISHER program.

SUMMARY

- 1) Select ICONS (pictures) from the ICON PACKAGE library.
- 2) Select a FONT from the FONT PACKAGE library.
- 3) Type your text into TASWORD.
Maximum of 94 rows (lines)! with 8 pixel line spacing.
Create Left and Right hand columns, each 32 characters wide
- 4) LOAD the TASWORD Conversion program.
- 5) LOAD your new FONT (if desired).
- 6) LOAD the TASWORD file (note how fast it converts 94 rows!)
- 7) LOAD the ICONS as directed. (Left-Hand column)
- 8) SAVE the Left-Hand column.
- 9) PRINT the Left-Hand column?
- 10) LOAD a new FONT and ICONS as directed. (Right-Hand column)
- 11) SAVE the Right-Hand column.
- 12) Print the Right-Hand column?
- 13) DO another file?

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At a glance, this looks like a lot of work... but it really is very easy! Simply follow the instructions provided by the program at each step of the way! In a very brief time - mere minutes! - you will be printing great TASWORD generated files with pictures in them!!

EXAMPLE File: As an aide in getting started/familiar with the program, I have added to the tape (following the program) a TASWORD II text file that you can use as a test sample. This text file (called Sample) can be LOADED into your copy of TASWORD to 'see' how I typed in the text and placed the ICONS. (2 ICONS are merged into the bottom of the right-hand column. The left-hand column doesn't have any ICONS.)

1) LOAD your TASWORD CONVERSION program. [Stop the Tape at the beep].

2) Press 'N' at the LOAD FONT prompt. We will use the IS 2068 font for this first example.

3) Type 'Sample' (without quotes) when asked the TASWORD file name... or just press [ENTER] for the next file. Start the tape and load the Sample Tasword file.

4) Line Spacing? Press 'O' for the standard 8 pixel spacing this time. The sample text file is a full 94 lines long!

5) The conversion will be done in seconds... save the results and print the file if you desire. Press 'N' at the second LOAD font prompt. (Note: you can print each column in a different Font if you like.)

6) The RIGHT-HAND column must LOAD 2 ICONS. 'ICON #1' and 'ICON #2' are both on the tape following the Sample text file. LOAD each of these when directed... I named these ICON #1 and ICON #2 to help you get them in the right order... you can of course use any name you want!

I hope you like this program... and as always, if you have any questions, please feel free to write!